Unutilised Rail Wagon Manufacturing Capacity

3266. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that substantial manufacturing capacity in the rail wagon manufacturing units both in public sector and private sector in the country have been laying unutilized;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps contemplated, if any, for facilitating enhanced utilization of the installed capacity of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) under administrative control of this Ministry have not been able to fully utilize their installed capacity due to various reasons, such as, liquidity crunch, difficulty in arranging critical components such as Bogies and Couplers, high overheads and low morale of the employees.

(c) Railways have decided that from 2005-06 Bogies and Couplers would be directly arranged by them to the wagon manufacturers. Government have also taken 'in principle' decision to revitalize the operations of these PSEs by seeking recommendation of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) on the revival/ restructuring proposals of these PSEs. This is expected to improve capacity utilization of these PSEs.

Task Force for UGC

3267. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a task force to oversee functioning of the UGC;

(b) if so, what steps would be taken to examine the role of the UGC which is harassing various educational institutions;

(c) whether there is any plan to make the UGC functioning transparent;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to rectify the errors of management and culture in the UGC; and

(e) whether it is fact that Government have also asked the University Grants Commission to review women's studies in all universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Union Government, from time to time, guides UGC in the discharge of its function under the UGC Act, 1956 by such directions on questions of policy relating to its constitutional obligations as it consider necessary. The Commission has been advised to develop a system for 'on-line' submission and to carry out is decision on its website of applications and processing.

(e) A Standing Committee has been constituted by the Government to go into the working of Women's Studies on a continuing basis and submit periodic reports to the UGC.

Hasslefree environment for women at work place

3268. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has prescribed certain guidelines and norms for all employers to ensure good and hassle free environment for women at work places;

(b) if so, the details therof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to create an awareness of these norms amongst the employers and to motivate them to take appropriate action in this regard; and

(d) if answer to the part (c) above is in the negative, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH):(a) and (b) The Supreme Court,